

The Chronicle

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Freshman experience courses required this fall

KENDRA JAPCHINSKI
News Editor

Beginning in the fall of 2004 a freshman experience course will be required of all entering freshmen and transfer students with less than 60 credit hours.

Michael Dobberstein, professor of English and a senate committee member, said on April 30, 2003, the university senate passed the docu-

ment to change the general education requirements to include a freshman experience course.

"The university is hoping for better retention, right now the proportion of entering students to students graduating is very low," Dobberstein said.

Dobberstein is not the only one who thinks retention is in need of improvement.

Dennis Korcheck, dean of the

school of technology, said "We have hope for better retention, if a student makes a strong connection at Purdue Calumet they are more likely to continue."

Daniel Dunn, dean of the school of liberal arts and social sciences, said the courses are part of the university's strategic plan to increase the number of students who graduate in six years.

He said, "Data suggests that stu-

dents who take freshman experience courses do better in school than students who do not take them."

Korcheck, who is also co-chair of the freshman orientation committee, said the school is trying to help freshmen gain a better understanding of the school. He said PUC implemented freshman orientation, but that orientation needs to go beyond a one-day seminar.

Korcheck said the general educa-

tion requirements of the course include introducing students to campus resources, such as the library, academic planning, goal setting and career exploration.

He said each department in the school is in the process of designing their own freshman experience course, which could be between one and three credit hours and tailored to

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NASA Grant Awarded to Professor

KATIE LANNON
Staff Writer

Megan Pickett, associate professor of chemistry and physics, received a second grant from NASA to continue research with the solar system. Pickett's research focuses on the origin of the solar system.

Pickett currently teaches physics and astronomy classes at PUC.

NASA's Planetary Geology and Geophysics program provided the grant from basic NASA funds. Pickett said the money aids in basic research.

She said she focuses her research on how the solar system was formed and on the early evolution of the solar nebula.

Pickett said the NASA grant gives her, along with a team of researchers, \$80,000 over a three-year time period. The money assists in travel expenses and publishing costs. She said to publish a paper in the geophysics area costs nearly \$2,000.

Pickett said there would be one student researcher that has not yet been selected.

She said researchers from various universities collaborate during the research process. Indiana University and Oregon University are two of the facilities, which aid in providing computing facilities. The University of Leeds, where Pickett is a visiting professor, also collaborates in the research. Collaborators in the research help Pickett through writing papers or discussing research.

To be considered for the grant you must apply with a formal proposal. Although Pickett previously received a grant from NASA it did not guarantee being awarded a second. Pickett said over 100 research teams nationwide apply and only 40 of these teams receive funding for research.

Pickett's goals for the research include continuing to answer an essential question.

"It is an important fundamental question to know what our home is and to know where we came from," Pickett said.

Pickett said there is a possibility of other life being out in the solar system.

"Through simulations planets formed very easily and this could lead to other life being out in the universe," Pickett said.

Pickett said the idea of life being out in the universe is an important reason why the solar system is interesting.

See NASA Page 5

Student Government Association not just politics



Photo by Dave Thompson

Anthony R. Nichols, vice president of finance for SGA, proposes ideas for movies to be shown in the TV room during homecoming week as Rob Jensen, director of fitness, wellness, and sports, listens in during the SPB meeting held last Friday morning.

Garcia looking to improve student life and recruit new senators

NICKI MACKOWSKI
Managing Editor

The Student Government Association has had the opportunity to evaluate the recent concerns and challenges expressed by students and faculty and plan to step forward and take action.

Ricardo Garcia, president of SGA said he has listened to the information that was given to the SGA at the end of the fall 2003 semester, and is looking ahead with the SGA to improve student life, through recruiting new senators and maintaining set goals.

"With an organization of our size we can set manageable goals and move forward with them, by

creating a middle ground with the administration, while boosting student life on campus," Garcia said.

Garcia said the main purpose of SGA is to represent and voice the concerns of the student body on matters, which directly affect the welfare, well being, and education of PUC students.

But Richard Riddering, director of the Center for Career and Leadership Development said that the current SGA is not at that point; there is not "one voice" within the organization.

"This group is the legislative arm of the student body," Riddering said.

Riddering said the SGA

needs to be active on committees and hear the appeals of the students. They need to be the strategic unit that represents and communicates the needs and wants of PUC students back to the administration.

Think of the SGA "like a triangle," Riddering said. This triangle needs a base, focusing on the heart or pulse of the students. The sides of the triangle represent the changes and the activities that the SGA needs to address about student life.

Riddering said, to survive and make these changes the SGA needs to focus and create this base, until this base is created nothing can be stably done.

"SGA is currently seeking for its roots," Riddering said. They have had great ideas, but they need to "prioritize" these ideas, and think about what the students really want.

Margaret De Dios, executive secretary for SGA, said, thinking about what the students want is one of the goals for SGA this semester.

"The students are speaking and we are listening," De Dios said.

Right now, SGA is collecting signatures from students to bring alcohol back to campus events. If approved by the administration

See SGA Page 5

ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE

'Support Your Local Lakers,' Saturday (1/31)

There's been a lot of discussion of late about the importance of nurturing campus life at Purdue Calumet.

The administration couldn't agree more that a vibrant, flourishing, active and energetic Purdue Calumet campus is essential to our strategic efforts, not only to attract, retain and graduate more students, but also to enrich Purdue Calumet.

At large, residential universities, athletic programs help fuel campus life. Football and basketball games are huge at Purdue's West Lafayette campus. In fact, just last week, Purdue's Lady Boilermakers basketball team attracted more than 11,000 fans for its "Pack the Mack" promotion against the University of Minnesota at Mackey Arena.

We don't have a Mackey Arena to pack here at Purdue Calumet, but we do have a gymnasium within our Physical Education Recreation Building. Our women's and men's Lakers basketball teams play there and are enjoying winning records this season.

Both teams are entering the heart of their schedules and would relish a PER Building full of student, faculty and staff supporters for their remaining home games.

2 games + fan contests + TV & more!

If it's been a while since you've attended a Lakers basketball game, we invite you to turn out this Saturday (1/31) for "Support Your Local Lakers" Day. Show your Student ID card, and you'll be able to take in two games for the price of none!

Our Lady Lakers play the University of St. Francis of Joliet, Ill. at 1 p.m., followed at 3 p.m. by a PUC-St. Francis men's contest.

WYIN-TV/Channel 56 is telecasting the men's game on a tape-delay basis that evening at 9 o'clock. Come, cheer on the Lakers in the afternoon...and possibly see yourself on the tube that night!

Aside from both games looming large in the Chicagoland Collegiate Athletic Conference race, halftime of each will feature entertainment by our dance team and a couple fun-filled fan promotions.

Do you feel lucky?

Our friends from UPS sponsor a "Lucky 13" shootout. Selected fans enjoy an opportunity to shoot baskets at various locations on the court. Score 13 points in 45 seconds, and you win a prize.

We're also introducing a "Come, Fly with Us" contest, during which up to 30 fans will have a chance to win prizes by gliding model airplanes onto target dots positioned on the floor.

Before the games—FYI, for those of you with energy to burn—the Fitness Center is open Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

So in response to that often-heard question—"What's there to do here on campus?"—we encourage you to Support Your Local Lakers this Saturday (1/31). Bring your friends and family, too.

And, yes, the concession stand will be open.

Remaining PUC home basketball schedule

DATE	WOMEN	MEN
Sat., 1/31	St. Francis @ 1pm	St. Francis @ 3 pm
Tue., 2/3	Illinois Tech @ 7pm	
Wed., 2/4		Illinois Tech @ 7pm
Sat., 2/14	Olivet Nazarene @ 1pm	Olivet Nazarene @ 3pm
*Sat., 2/21	I.U.-South Bend @ 4pm	I.U.-South Bend @ 7pm

* Denotes Homecoming

* * * * *

Moo Done It update

We've noticed the smiles, the chuckles and the occasional perplexing looks among those of you who have pondered the campus "Moo Done It" contest that kicked off last week.

As a recap, we're looking for your help in solving the mystery of what is hidden under the veil in the SFLC library. If you can't get to the library to assess what's under cover, there's a picture on the Purdue Calumet web site: www.calumet.purdue.edu/moodoneit

You can enter the contest on line. Entry forms also are available at these four campus locations: the library, Information Center on the SFLC concourse, Grab 'N' Go in CLO and the Fitness Center.

The entry deadline is Feb. 5. If you've already entered, feel free to do it again...and again...and again...We'd like nothing more than to beef up the responses. Winners will be announced and prizes awarded at our "Moo Done It" reception, Thursday, Feb. 12, from 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. in the library. All students, faculty and staff are invited to attend.

Here's the next in our series of daily clues...

...As Bart Simpson has been known to utter: "Don't have a _____, man!"

'See you at the games, Saturday. Go Lakers!'

What's Goin' On?

A look around campus

Student Government Association seeks student input

The SGA wants to hear from the student body about issues that are important to them. Students who have concerns they would like to have addressed should contact the SGA at 989-2394, or by email sga_president0304@yahoo.com.

Student Programming Board seeks members for planning

The SBP is seeking members who are willing to bring campus activity ideas to the table and help in the planning and implementing of those ideas. Meetings are every other Friday at 10 a.m. Those interested should contact Jennifer Dinell at vpofprogramming@yahoo.com.

Student organizations: It's homecoming time!

The SPB is presenting homecoming 2004. Each recognized active PUC organization will have a chance to participate by nominating members to run for the 2004 homecoming king and/or queen by getting an entry form in SFLC 349. The forms are due Feb. 2. For more information contact Jennifer Dinell at vpofprogramming@yahoo.com.

Get published: Skylark now accepting submissions

Purdue University Calumet Literary Magazine is now accepting poetry and short stories for the Spring 2004 edition. Send submissions to Karen A. Tomaszewski, English and Philosophy Department CLO 216 or tomaszewskik1@calumet.purdue.edu.

Catch the basketball teams on channel 56, WYIN-TV

WYIN-TV, channel 56 in Gary & Merrillville, is coming to campus to broadcast the Lakers and Lady Lakers. WYIN will be on campus to tape the Lakers vs. St. Francis game. They will also tape the Lady Lakers Homecoming game vs. IU-South Bend at 4 p.m. The Lakers game will air on WYIN on Jan. 31 at 8 p.m. and the Lady Lakers game will air on Feb. 21 at 9 p.m.

Attention all engineering, mathematics and science majors

The Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers will be meeting on Jan. 27, Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. The location will be posted in the Potter Building. All ethnicities are welcome to attend. For more information contact Daniel Florez at (219) 613-6228.

First Student Organization Executive board meeting

The Student Organization Executive Board first meeting of the semester is scheduled for Friday, January 30, from 12 p.m. - 2 p.m. in Lawshe, Room 305. Student Organization members may register for the meeting online at www.calumet.purdue.edu/ccld/ or by calling 989-2369.

TV Room Task Force conducting informational sessions

The TV Room Task Force Committee will conduct informational sessions on February 4 and 10, from 11:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. in SFLC 100 (TV Room) to gather feedback from students on how to improve the TV Room and Game Room areas. Students with ideas or suggestions are asked attend.

Submitting Briefs

Anyone interested in publicizing events, clubs, organizations or departments in "What's Goin' On?" must submit briefs the Monday before publication. The Chronicle is published on Mondays. The Chronicle does not guarantee placement of briefs submitted.

Please limit briefs to four sentences and include the first and last name of the contact person.

Briefs may be submitted via e-mail at: chronicle@calumet.purdue.edu or campus cc:mail - chronicle or to the News Department located in the Student Faculty Library Center, Room 344-H.

The Chronicle

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Purdue's office of advancement has new acting vice chancellor

DONNA GEORGE
Chief Copy Editor

Standing six feet five inches tall, acting vice chancellor for advancement Fred DeHaan's physical presence and easy manner are a compelling mix.

"He has a very personable and engaging style," said Leticia Toma, director of alumni relations.

This combined with more than 14 years of financial development experience helped make his transition into vice chancellor for advancement Dolores Steuer-Wagner's position, during her medical leave, a seamless one.

Toma said they are very lucky that he was in a position to step into that role.

"Especially now when we're in the middle of the largest financial campaign we've ever had," Toma said.

DeHaan works closely with the office of university relations, alumni relations and financial aid. DeHaan sees his new role primarily as a question of broader coordination. He joined the staff at Purdue University Calumet in July 2003. Before this move he served as executive director of foundations at Hawkeye Community College in Waterloo, Iowa, for two years.

DeHaan said he made the move to Purdue not only for the professional opportunities, but to be closer to his youngest daughter. A family photo of DeHaan, his wife of 10 years and their blended family of four children is prominently displayed

in his office. DeHaan is no stranger to large families.

His parents emigrated from the Netherlands in 1953 with five children. DeHaan and two more siblings, one of whom is his twin sister, were the first in his family to be born in America.

The family settled in Pella, Iowa, an area with an extensive immigrant community. DeHaan said Pella is the home of an annual Tulip Time Festival, Pella windows and Vermeer Manufacturing.

Education was given high priority in the DeHaan household.

"Seeing my parents provide costly private education, K-12 and college, to all eight children, when neither of them went beyond the eighth grade, inspired me to value education very highly," DeHaan said.

He attended Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Mich., a school also attended by two of his older brothers. DeHaan and all five of his brothers were involved with athletics. A great fan of all collegiate sports, he admits that basketball was his first love.

While a student at Calvin College, DeHaan was the public address announcer for men's and women's basketball games at the school. The college hosted NCAA division 3 national tournaments in men's basketball and seven years in a row they hosted the final four.

One year ESPN came and he had the opportunity to work with them.

"It was fun being part of something that had national connections to it," DeHaan said.

During his junior and senior years he worked for the college writing press releases. When he graduated in 1982 with a bachelor's degree in speech and a minor in English, the school's fundraising department hired him. In 1988 he became the director of development.

As Purdue University Calumet embarks on what DeHaan described as one of the most aggressive campaigns launched in the United States, his fundraising and gift development expertise are being fully utilized.

There are 9 specific projects that make up the university's "Plan for Success" campaign. His role is to put a plan and strategy together to reach the goals by 2007. DeHaan said that plan then has to be communicated to the community.

"We approach potential donors with the idea that this is an opportunity to be part of the vision for the state," DeHaan said.

DeHaan's department also maintains items like the honor roll of donors and they make sure that thank you notes are sent to donors. It's a question of stewardship he said.

"The more the donor knows that we value their gift the more likely it is they will continue their gifts to the university," DeHaan said.

As DeHaan's department reaches into the community for financial support, a solid working relationship with the departments of university relations, alumni relations, financial aid and increased levels of communication with Purdue West Lafayette takes on ever increasing levels of

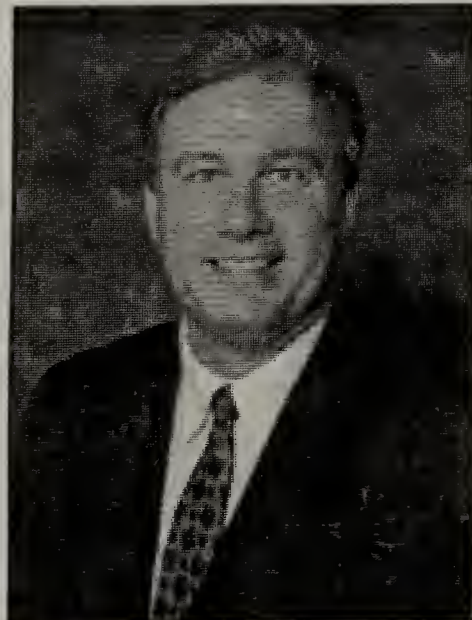


Photo provided by the university

Fred DeHaan, acting vice chancellor for advancement.

importance with regard to the success of Purdue Calumet's campaign.

Wes Lukoshus, assistant vice chancellor advancement said, "He brings an energy and personality that endears him not only to the university, but to his extended role in advancement and the community."

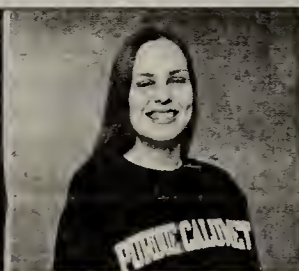
Toma said, "He has a lot of good ideas and he knows how to get things done. We're lucky to have him."

Correction:

In the January 20th issue of the Chronicle, it was reported that Eric Sera and Peter Aranda wrote and produced the documentary know as the "Big Bopper." While Sera and Aranda were the scriptwriters for this film, it was produced by Erica Ribicki and Josh Holmes. The Chronicle regrets this error.

"I attend Purdue University Calumet. I'm working at UPS and I'm also able to get school paid for. It does make my education more valuable. I don't take it for granted. It's a gratifying job."

- Stacy Goddard



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The Chronicle

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Spring 2004

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Departmental freshman experience an unneeded step

The average college student in the United States changes their major seven times before graduation, according to the Hobsons Student Union. Many students at PUC start in one area of study and switch to another area. In fact, many PUC students change their minds about what their future holds once they begin to learn and grow in the academic environment.

A departmental freshman experience course seems like an unnecessary addition to the schedule, especially since most departments have one, if not several, introductory level courses that have already been established.

According to the aforementioned statistics, most students won't benefit from a freshman experience course on their first choice of a major in the long run anyway.

The current basic introduction to college life course is a generalized course serving more students in the long run. The students can implement the knowledge received about career choices, goal setting, how to use resources and academic planning into whatever area of study they decide to pursue later.

The introduction to college life course does serve a general purpose. This purpose is to mold incoming freshmen who do not have direction into successful students who graduate and therefore increase student retention.

It is important for students to know how to search for resources, explore different career paths and set goals and plan in an academic setting, but the university has gone a step too far with a freshman experience course for different areas of studies. Students don't need a pre-introduction introduction course.

It is not necessary to have a step in between these two courses, and that is what the freshman experience course in the specified areas of study will be.

As reported, Professor Dobberstein said the course is designed for regular tenured faculty to teach and the department heads will choose which professors will teach them.

The departments should not pull the tenured and experienced professors away from the upper level and more advanced courses.

Experienced professors have more to offer students than a guided field trip around the campus to learn where to find resources.

Instead of having a required departmental course where students have to spend unnecessary money and time, make the freshmen orientation one-day seminar required and recommend that incoming freshman take a general introduction to college life course if they seem to be unsure about what area of study they would like to pursue.

Since the university is moving ahead with this course addition anyway, here are some suggestions on how not to waste the professor's knowledge and experience and the student's time and money:

- Have guest speakers from the specific career fields come to the course and give detailed and in-depth descriptions of the job market, average pay, probability of finding a job in the field and different job options with that degree.

- Use class time to go over the basics of the career paths the students are interested in and use the tools and knowledge they will need to do the job.

- Departments should review the material covered in the introduction classes and make sure it differs from the freshman experience courses for that area of specialty.

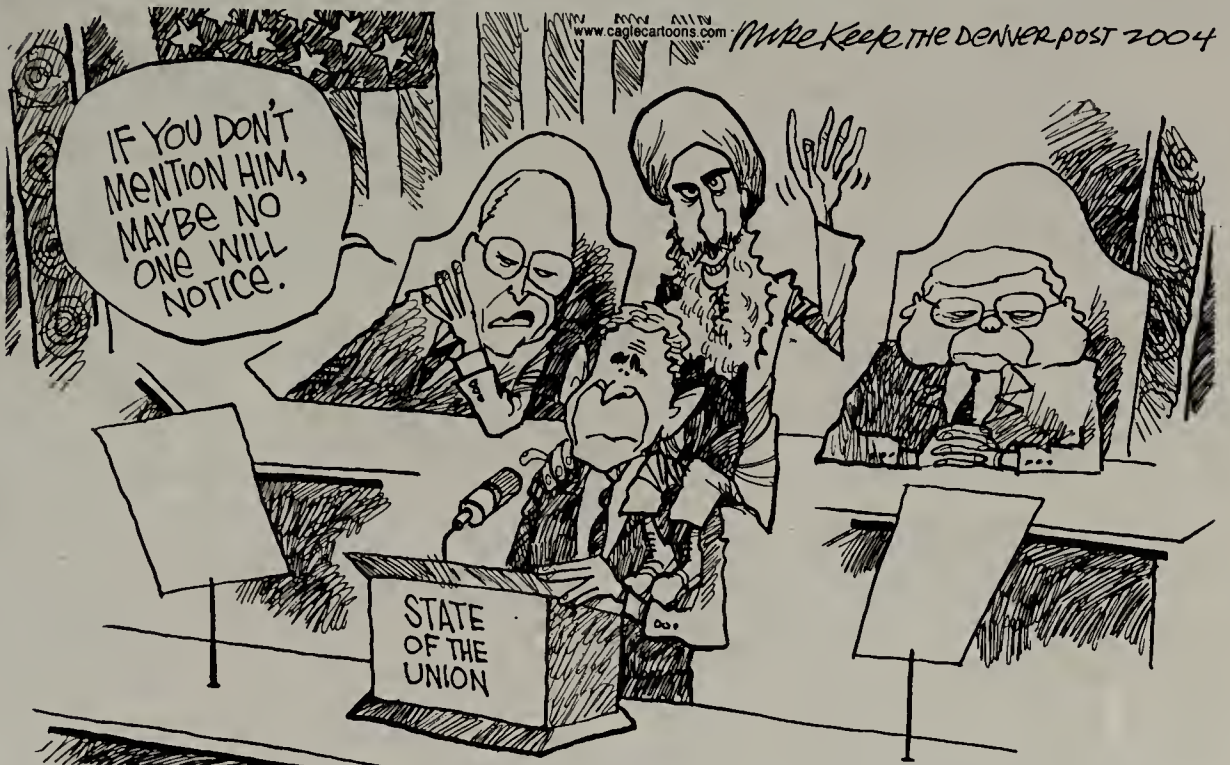
The Student Government Association needs to investigate if this addition is really going to benefit the incoming freshman optimally.

The Chronicle Editorial Policy

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The Chronicle welcomes reader input. Letters and commentaries must include the author's name, class standing or other affiliation and a telephone number for verification. The more concise the letter, the better the chances of publication.

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Fine arts flourish in Northwest



DONNA GEORGE
Chief Copy Editor

Recently one of Purdue Calumet's illustrious educators, one whose opinion I value, described Northwest Indiana as a cultural wasteland. I was indignant and wondered how this individual could possibly be so woefully misinformed.

Obviously I disagree with the negative assessment and feel obliged to defend my position. My quest to enlighten gained importance when I considered the premise that if one person is actually expressing a given opinion, there are countless others who are thinking the same thing.

In the name of fairness I considered the possibility that my own involvement with the arts in this area had skewed my perspective.

Maybe it's an issue of magnitude. Local venues cannot book the same "big name" artists or shows that frequent Chicago, but that does not mean the area is void of quality cultural events, quite the contrary. The richness of the area's cultural diversity just adds to the depth of what is available to the public.

The beauty of local events is their ability to cast a much wider net in terms of audience accessibility. Quality theater, art and music should not be restricted solely to those who can afford to spend a king's ransom to see a show or concert in Chicago.

Those who struggle to make ends meet should also be afforded the opportunity to immerse themselves in cultural events.

I visited the Lake County visitor's bureau to see just what was cookin' in Northwest Indiana. Before I had even picked up a brochure I noticed the FAME children's art exhibit on display not 10 feet away from me. Granted, it's not Monet or VanGogh, but this is where the seeds are planted.

The Northern Indiana Arts Association hosts continuous art exhibits ranging from "The Prints of Andy Warhol" to elementary school art exhibitions. A glance through "Panorama," an entertainment magazine, reveals countless art exhibits throughout Lake, Porter and LaPorte counties.

Almost monthly classical and Pops concerts are offered by either the LaPorte County or Northwest Indiana Symphony orchestras. If classical doesn't strike your fancy, quality jazz and blues artists can be found locally as well. I got the inside scoop from Sondra at the visitor's center.

If live theater piques your interest, The Northwest Indiana Excellence in Theatre Foundation boasts 12 different community theater groups, including the Purdue Theatre Company.

Regular professional theater productions can easily be found at the Center for Visual and Performing Arts in Munster and the Star Plaza in Merrillville.

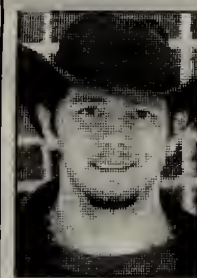
Add to this list the vast array of festivals that celebrate the area's cultural diversity and I think you get the idea. Culture does not always have to mean "high-browed and black-tie" and it can all be found right here in Northwest Indiana.

Those of us who live and work in this area must continue to support the cultural events offered locally with our patronage and our time if we are to grow a stronger appreciation for the arts among the general population.

The People Speak

Question of the week:

Do you think a required freshman experience course will benefit incoming freshmen? Why or why not?



Daryl Frey

Freshman, secondary education

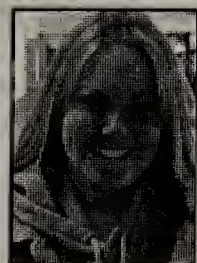
"I believe it will help incoming freshmen, because it will help teach them how to prepare for future classes."



Elle Streeter

Junior, elementary education

"Yes, because it allows freshmen to experience a higher educational challenge."



Julie Naddy

Junior, psychology

"No, because I think it is a waste of time. Everything you learn, you learn from your peers."



Kate Hodson

Junior, psychology

"It's good, because you learn about things that you normally wouldn't learn about in the classroom."



Omar Torres

Junior, finance

"No, because a class cannot teach you the basics of college life and it is a waste of money."

Write the editorial staff at:

chronicle@calumet.purdue.edu

Please limit your letter to 400 words to ensure it will be printed in its entirety.

Freshman

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fit departmental needs.

He said since freshman experience courses are designed to teach students about their specific field of study, every department is required to have a different one. Some departments might even have different courses for different majors.

"Students will gain information about their particular field of study, such as careers in the field and their specific curriculum," Korcheck said. "They will also get to know departmental faculty and other students."

Korcheck said students who change their majors would not be required to take another freshman experience course.

Dobberstein said the course is designed for regular tenured faculty to teach, but it is up to the heads of the departments to decide which professors will teach them.

Dunn said, "We would like to see a student-centered professor with teaching experience within the department, who likes working with entry-level students teach the course."

Dunn said the freshman experience courses

have been pilot tested for the past two years.

Barbara Osmon, academic adviser for behavioral sciences, has taught the freshman experience course four times.

Osmon said the course gives students the tools to succeed. She said the more comfortable a student is, the more likely they are able to remain at the university.

"Since this is a commuter campus too often students take classes and leave," Osmon said. "Students can network, get to know each other, their instructor and become overall more familiar with the university."

William Robinson, professor of communication, has also taught the freshman course. He said, "I liked the class well enough that I would enjoy teaching it again."

Osmon said students have reacted well to the courses. She said students left the class feeling confident about their plan of study, library resources, study skills and writing skills.

She said, "The freshman experience course is a fun, enjoyable class, I really like working with incoming freshmen."

NASA

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"It is an exciting time to be in astrophysics with 110 known planets out there, research in astronomy and the solar system," Pickett said.

Michael W. Pelter, acting head of the chemistry and physics department said this research is cutting edge and benefits PUC in many ways.

"She is able to incorporate her knowledge and enthusiasm into her astronomy classes. This greatly enriches the learning experience for the students, especially the non-science majors," Pelter stated.

Pelter said the undergraduate student

research involved with the grant provides students with summer stipends to work directly with Pickett.

"Students gain travel opportunities and the ability to present at regional and national conferences," Pelter said.

Pelter said that the chemistry and physics department supports Pickett, by giving her computer workstations and allowing release time from a full teaching load to conduct this research.

"Overall, this is a fantastic opportunity for Dr. Pickett and the students at PUC. We are able to provide PUC students with the opportunity to take world class courses and perform state-of-the-art research in astronomy," Pelter said.

SGA

continued from Page 1

the SGA would work to have alcohol at general campus events, like dinners and dances, De Dios said.

With the average age of a PUC student being 27 years old, it is not right to forbid someone of legal age from having a glass of wine with their meal or while they are attending a campus function, De Dios said.

"SGA is just trying to make student's experiences at PUC more like that of other colleges, and less like high school," De Dios said.

But Gloria Roldan-Schieb, associate director for student life activities believes that SGA needs to focus on the real issues on campus.

Roldan-Schieb said having alcohol on campus is important for student organizations, but more important for the student body is having an SGA that sits on committees, holds Town Hall and Senate meetings, maintains office hours and gives students a place to come to voice their opinions.

The SGA provides an opportunity to make a difference in the lives of people and leave a lasting mark on the university, Roldan-Schieb said.

"It's about leaving a legacy," Roldan-Schieb said.

With the upcoming election, there will be plenty of opportunities for students to play a vital role at the university, Rittering said.

There is also a broad spectrum of possibilities within student government for "students with heart" and knowledge of government. As with any other job or position it requires time and effort on the part of the individual, Rittering said.

Jennifer Dinell, vice president of the student programming board, knows that not all members of the SGA intend to become politicians or ever plan to hold a public office. SGA members all have one goal in mind and that is to be visible on campus.

Dinell said, "Visibility can be accomplished by simply handing out fliers, however, through this simple task networking opportunities are created, and changes at the university are made."

Roldan-Schieb said, for those students who believe that each student can make a difference, now is the time to get involved, as elections are not too far off. For those interested in more information on the Student Government Association contact them at or call the SGA office at (219) 989-2394.

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Improving success with on-campus employment

JOCELYN GALLEGOS
Contributing Writer

Purdue University Calumet now focuses on the final stages of a 2003 strategic plan initiative promoting the university's number one goal of improving student success.

A university strategic task force committee proposed creating a central on-campus student employment office offering both better and more job opportunities for students in order to improve student success.

The committee hopes to hire a qualified individual by early February to head the office. Subsequently, the office will officially open in May.

Rick Riddering, director of the Center for Career and Leadership Development said the committee began conducting several studies on student employment including literature searches and a review of peer institutions after the task force initially discovered positive correlations between on-campus work and student success.

"Through research, we found that if people work on campus, they are more likely to stay on campus and graduate from college," Riddering, a committee member, said.

As outlined by the university's strategic plan, measurement of student success includes a boost in the freshmen retention rate from 62 percent to 72 percent and an increase in the six-year graduation rate from 21 percent to 32 percent.

Riddering said the coordinator will focus mostly on on-campus student employment.

"We are looking for someone who is creative, is customer-focused, someone who will be a role model for our students and a person who is a good project manager because we are building something from scratch; we need someone who can identify the nuts and bolts and put them all together," Riddering said.

Director of Human Resources Mary Beth Rincon remembers students approaching her many times inquiring about on-campus student employment. If students qualified for federal work-study she would direct them to the CCLD.

Otherwise, "I would ask them what their major was, and then direct them to a depart-

ment related to their major. Many departments want to hire their own students," Rincon, also a member of the committee, said.

However, Rincon said she was concerned most about the absence of a centralized location where she could send students to find jobs on campus. She said she felt bad sending students backtracking to other departments in search for employment instead of directing them to one place where all the jobs would be listed.

"Surprisingly, students were thankful because I provided them with a method of how to get a job on campus," Rincon said. However, "My concern was that they could have also thought to themselves, 'I'm not going to do that. That's too much work' and then give up," Rincon said.

Rincon said in order for this initiative to be effective the student employment coordinator must educate faculty and staff on how to post jobs and keep the student employment office updated. Marketing will also drive the success of this initiative.

"The coordinator will have to market the jobs to students and promote the benefits of on-campus employment," Rincon said.

One component of the student employment office is to provide students with project-based work. Riddering said the students' job assignments will be meaningful and realistic.

"By meaningful, I mean project employment; it's basically like an internship on campus," Riddering said.

He said students will be matched with employment related to their major.

"If a department needed to update its web page, it would hire a student majoring in web design for a month. The student would then be able to put this on their resume, and at the same time it would help us fill the need we have on campus," Riddering said.

The office will also coordinate internships and federal work-study. Some of the on-campus jobs will qualify for university credit hours.

Riddering said on-campus student wages will be competitive with wages offered by off-campus employers. Using strategic plan funding, the university hopes to increase the mean hourly wage of \$6.62 to \$9.25 and the number of student employees from 341 to 500.

Library provides ACCESS to students

SARAH KOCSIS
Contributing writer

The Purdue University Calumet library staff's proudest accomplishment is the addition of the Adaptive Computer Center for Effective Special Services, said Sherrie Kristin, the library systems technical assistant.

The center consists of four computers designed to help students with visual, cognitive and physical impairments, Kristin said. The equipment has a continuous update on all software to enable students access to the latest in technology.

In addition, the computers sit on desks that can be electronically raised and lowered to allow space for wheelchairs. There are voice activated phones next to each monitor that ring directly to the reference desk and two of the computers contain software that interprets text into spoken words by scanning the material into the system.

Kristin said the library staff members have a goal to never give a negative response to any question. The staff members want to provide students with what they need when they need it.

"Every student that walks into the library will have the same access to information, no matter what," Kristin said.

The ACCESS center, completed in March 2003, took two years to finish but Kristin said it still lacks many necessary components to make it everything students need.

"We had to cut many things from our original proposal in order to get the project running, but we intend to keep adding to the center each year," Kristin said.

Next year, she hopes to add a foot controlled mouse to each computer and buy special keyboards for students to use during a lecture. Everything that is typed can be downloaded and the computer will read the information to the students.

The center created inspiration for all the staff members and Kristin said her staff had never been so enthusiastic or dedicated about a project.

"Inclusion is important," Kristin said. "Everyone knows what it is like to be left behind. We want to help those who are behind and bring them to the front."

Student worker Eartha Montgomery agreed. She said the center is a great idea, because it helps create unity within the student body.

The center is easily accessible and gives each student an equal opportunity to take advantage of the library, Montgomery said.

Senior Andrea Murray said she used the center seven times during fall 2003 for her communication courses. Her favorite feature is a pair of headphones that allows her to hear every word that is on the monitor screen.

She has dyslexia and Murray said the technology provided in the center helps her read class material and write papers.

Kristin said that knowing every student can now use the library to its full potential has given her more motivation to keep adding to the center.

"We spent every dime we had," Kristin said. "There is nothing we could do with our money that would have been better than this."

Tinkham remembered one year later

In the memory of my Guru Dr. Charles Tinkham

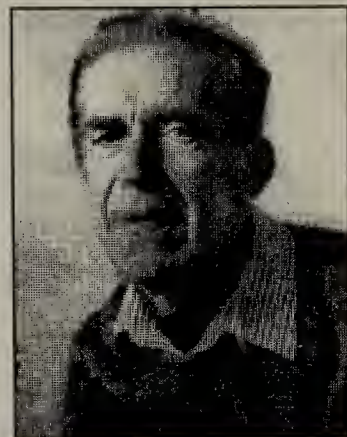
Who left his legacy behind in the hearts and souls of those who truly believe in him. When we think of great people like Charles who was a believer of One God, love, faith, justice and peace. Sure you have opened horizons of my soul to write poetry. Your wilderness, your Soul enjoying the wilderness, will continue here at Purdue University. You are a priceless treasure for Purdue and for many who have a place for you in their hearts.

Physically you have left us a year ago on January, 24, 2003, but you will be always with us, to laugh and to cry with us. To teach us, and to learn with us.

Here is one of your poems I like to read:

"Love"

You've left the light of the faltering sun,
the changing light of the cloudy days,
late summer landscapes where flowers lie strewn,
in windy weathers of our time.
You've turned to face a purer light,
a season eternally splendid- together your work,
your hands joined closed.
Through fields of green,
green asphodel- towards a light that glows
as pure as a Love that knows no mortal end.



Rest in Peace my friend "Charles"
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International business journal appoints professor as editor

KEVIN JAMES
Staff Writer

Recently Musa Darayseh, professor of accounting, was appointed editor of the Journal of the Academy of Business Administration. The journal is a biannual magazine that focuses on all areas of business, both academic and practical and is put out by the Academy of Business Administration, an organization that encourages the exchange of ideas and research in the area of business. The journal is an international business magazine that receives articles from all over the world.

As editor of the journal Darayseh will review the papers submitted to the journal before a committee of three professionals and vote on whether or not the papers will be printed in the journal.

"Hopefully this will increase the amount of knowledge I have in turn helping my students," Darayseh said. "Many of our faculty members submit papers to the journal, some of which require more research. This additional research will expand the knowledge of the faculty as well."

Darayseh said the journal is a good resource for business students as well as faculty members around the world. He said new faculty members also have a lot to gain from the additional knowledge that will be made available from the journal.

Raida Abuizam, lecturer of quantitative methods and former student of Darayseh, said, "As editor of the journal he will be exposed to many publications in the world of business which will give him more knowledge to share."

Roger Pumante, accounting major, said, "The fact that the journal is a compilation of views from all over the world will be useful to us."

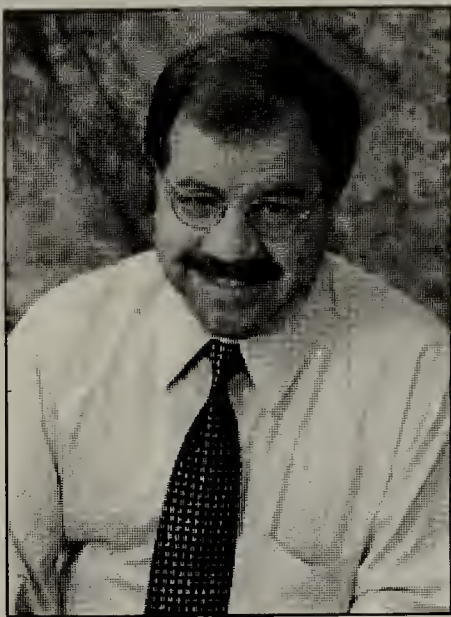


Photo provided

As editor of the journal Darayseh will review the papers submitted to the journal before a committee of three professionals

Elaine Waples, associate professor of accounting said, "The international contacts and access to the latest research will benefit business students."

Darayseh received his doctorate in accounting from the University of Nebraska in 1990 and has been a member of the PUC school of management since 1990. Some of the courses he teaches include accounting for managers, accounting practice and financial accounting. He has been published in several journals including Managerial Finance Journal, Business Research Yearbook, and Management Research News.

Management department mourns loss

NICOLE MACKOWSKI
Managing Editor

John Dimos, visiting instructor at Purdue University Calumet, died Thursday, January 15, 2004.

Dimos served on the faculties of Purdue University-Calumet, Purdue University-North Central, Indiana University Northwest, and Indiana University South Bend where he taught undergraduates, graduate students and those seeking continuing education in the principles of business and entrepreneurship.

For approximately the last fifteen years, Dimos was actively involved in educating current and future business people.

Professor Jamaluddin Husain, director of the Entrepreneurship Center, knew Dimos very well. John was teaching classes this semester to students who were interested in becoming entrepreneurs.

"John was the kind of person that the world needs," Husain said.

Dimos was a very knowledgeable person who was always willing to help others, Husain said.

Besides his academic profession Dimos had many other callings in life.

Dimos was a third-generation restaurateur, who co-owned with his brother Tom, the Beauty Spot Restaurant in Gary, which they purchased from their father Jim in 1972. He also co-owned or operated a wide-range of additional businesses, including a car dealership, van conversion shop, truck stop and liquor store.

Besides teaching full time at PUC, Dimos was also a local realtor who bought and sold businesses.

Dimos was a graduate of Lew Wallace High School in Gary. John received his Undergraduate degree from Michigan State University and two Masters degrees in Business from Indiana University Northwest.

He was also a member of Delta Sigma Pi business fraternity. He was a member of Glen Park Lodge No. 732 F.&A.M. the Scottish Rite, Valley of South Bend and the Orak Shrine Temple.

Besides his love for business, John also had a great love for his family. He is survived by his wife of 43 years, Marianne Dimos; three sons, Jim, John and Chris Dimos and five grandchildren.

"John lead a life of love and kindness, and he will be greatly missed," Husain said.



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East meets West in cultural drama 'Cathay Visions'



Photos by Donna George

Above: Lydia Zheng of Munster, who plays Girl in 'Cathay Visions: The Empty Cage' is the daughter of Jin Lu, associate professor French at Purdue University Calumet.

Below: Cast members rehearse for Saturday's performance of "Cathay Visions: The Empty Cage." From left: Paul Montgomery of Valparaiso as Dr. Faustus, Genfu Tai of Munster as Hiawatha, Noelle Gaboyan of Merrillville as Minnehaha, Jin Lu of Munster as Wife and J. Allen Johnson, executive assistant to the chancellor.

DONNA GEORGE
Chief Copy Editor

"Cathay Visions: The Empty Cage," a drama that blends elements of eastern and western cultures, will be performed Saturday, Jan. 31 at 3:30 p.m. in Alumni Hall of Purdue University Calumet's student faculty library center.

Written by Hwang Mei-Shu, a professor at Tamkang University in Taiwan, the play is set in China and is a dream within a dream. Cathay was the name given to China by Marco Polo. J. Allen Johnson, executive assistant to the chancellor, who directed the play, explained that the empty cage is a metaphor for life that explores love and our relationships to those around us.

"We are faced with the question, why is the cage empty," Johnson said.

Harry Hou, who plays the scholar, said that Dr. Faustus represents western culture. The scholar, in whose dream the story takes place, uses Faustus's words to describe his dream.

Jin Lu, associate professor of French, who plays Wife, said that the play highlights numerous parallels between the East and West. The character, Old Man, played by Peter Chou, constantly uses Chinese proverbs to explain Western culture. Throughout his dream Old Man encounters characters such as Hiawatha, Minnehaha, Helen of Troy and Dr. Faustus.

Paul Montgomery, a senior at Valparaiso University, who plays Dr. Faustus, said the story's message would be different for each culture.

"It's a very intellectual play. It also has a lot of humorous points to it," Montgomery said.

Cathay Visions is the fifth installment in a series of plays that have been the vehicle for a program called "Building Community Through the Arts."

The program, which started two years ago through the chancellor's office, is designed to facilitate growth of the university as a member of an ethnically diverse community.

Johnson said, "How can we grow as a university community if we don't engage in activities or expressions with which we are unfamiliar?"

The plays thus far have highlighted Black, Hispanic, Polish and now Chinese cultures. The performances have been well attended, averaging between 300 and 500 people.

Barbara Synos, vice chancellor for academic affairs, said, "We aren't just engaging people from those specific ethnicities. Anyone involved is immersed in the culture while participating in the play."

Lu, who was instrumental in the selection of Cathay Visions: The Empty Cage, said the plays are a collaboration of people from different ethnic groups.

"It provides an opportunity for people from different cultures to work together and have a dialogue. It happens in the play and during practice," Lu said.

Noelle Gaboyan, a freshman at Wheeler High School, who plays Minnehaha, said she is very proud of being involved with a play at Purdue. She said she has gained a lot of knowledge about other people and other cultures through her involvement.

A common sentiment among the cast members was the fun of "hanging around" with people of different cultures.

Lu said, "The very survival of our world depends on the ability of different cultures to understand each other and live in harmony."

Johnson, who has directed each of plays so far said, "To be truly American is to recognize the universality of humans, to be proud of who ever we are and where we come from."

Other cast members include: Zhenshu Xie of Crown Point as Sweet Maiden, Genfu Tai of Munster as Hiawatha, Heather McCarthy of Griffith as Helen of Troy, Yalong Zhen of Munster as Husband, Brandon Lee of Munster as Boy, and Lydia Zheng of Munster as Girl.

Admission to Saturday's performance is free.

Chancellor Howard Cohen will host a reception before the performance at 2:30 p.m. in Founders Study, adjacent to Alumni Hall.

In addition, a dance group from the Xilin Art Center in Naperville, Ill. will perform.

Andy Warhol's 15 minutes not up yet

JASON RUDY
Staff Writer

Northwest Indiana has now become just a bit more hip. The Northwest Indiana Arts Association is presenting The Prints of Andy Warhol (From A to B and Back Again) in the William J. Bachman Gallery at the Center for Visual and Performing Arts in Munster until February 15. The cost is seven dollars for general admission and five dollars for students.

The exhibit is a self-guided walk that includes 61 original prints, the option to watch two different documentaries on Warhol's life, and a chance to bid on two pieces of Warhol memorabilia.

Andy Warhol emerged during the mid-sixties as the leading figure in the American Pop Art movement. Warhol's main form of expression in the art world was the screen print. His prints immortalized both movie stars and soup cans, which reflected America's obsession with celebrity and consumerism. His prints are far from plain, and are usually laced with bright neon colors that defined the Pop movement.

While walking through the exhibit, some of the prints have quotes from Warhol next to them. The first collection is \$, which is a series of prints with the dollar sign. The quote from Warhol reads, "A lady friend of mine asked me, 'Well, what do you love most?' That's how I started painting money."

The next attraction is Campbell's Soup II, which is eight massive prints of different flavors of Campbell's soup. There's a great sarcasm in Warhol's prints of soup cans. One can imagine distinguished people going to a reputable art gallery only to find pictures of soup cans and then trying to reflect on how interesting it is. Andy Warhol definitely broke the mold of what is considered art.

There are many celebrity portraits on display, including Marilyn Monroe, Grace Slick, Jane Fonda, and the famous Liz, which is a portrait of Elizabeth Taylor. Warhol was obsessed with Taylor, and once said, "It would be very glamorous to be reincarnated as a great big ring on Liz Taylor's finger."

Among the bright and flashy prints, there is a collection that really stands out. It is entitled Death, and they stand out because they're in black and white. The first is Electric Chair, which is a smudged, crooked, and dark reminder of the death penalty. The second is Disaster (Car Wreck), a gruesome print of an arm hanging out of a mangled car. This collection clashes with everything else, but adds a much-needed balance to Warhol's obsession with pop culture.

The two documentaries on Warhol's life are excellent. One heavily explores Warhol's movie career, which is an interesting story all in itself. The two items up for silent auction is a 1970s poster print of Warhol's Querelle and a white T-shirt autographed by Warhol.

The William J. Bachman Gallery is an excellent place to show these prints. The massive and spare gallery seems very appropriate for Warhol's often blunt art. The gallery is a very welcoming environment with very helpful staff. The exhibit has been a great success for the Center for Visual and Performing Arts.

"We've had a good response so far," says Ruth Crnkovich, director of Exhibitions and Artists Services. "There have been people traveling in from Chicago, as well as about 60 school groups to see the prints."

That's what is so great about this exhibit. It's really cool to see the work of such a distinguished American artist in Northwest Indiana. People in this area have relied on Chicago for the chance to see great art, and now it's in our own backyard.

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Ani Difranto plays Chicago Theatre

TERRIE HENDERSON
Editor in Chief

With only her guitar, Ani Difranto was a powerhouse of emotion, music and story telling at the Chicago Theatre on Sat, Jan. 17, 2004.

A huge crowd stood at attention while the songwriting righteous babe sang songs from her newly released "Educated Guess" album, and a few old favorites. All eyes were on Difranto as she sang, and the audience laughed and cheered when she spoke between songs.

Seeing Difranto live is an experience any fan should not miss, and if a non-fan sees her, chances are they will become one.

Her audience loves her and appreciates her, and there is a respect and equality that fills the room. Even if there were a million people in attendance, one would still feel as if they were in a coffee shop listening to a friend play some songs and tell some tales.

But Difranto isn't really a typical coffee shop picker, either.

From the audience, she looks like a giant, because her personality and manner are consuming. She rocks hard, and her fingers fly as she slaps the guitar strings, crinkles her face in deep concentration and jumps and dances around. She is amazing to watch.

And she is sincere. She levels with the audience and speaks plainly and honestly about her feelings, experiences and beliefs in a non-threatening and non-pressuring way.

During her closing poem, she asked, "why don't all decent men and women call themselves feminists?"

She also spoke about voting and how it



Photos courtesy of righteousbaberecords.com

Ani Difranto performing at the Falcon Ridge Folk Festival on July 28, 2002. Difranto held audiences spellbound with songs from her latest album, "Educated Guess," and a few old favorites.

may seem like it doesn't matter and may seem overwhelming, but it does make a difference.

Although Difranto's music has changed somewhat from 1990, when she first started to release albums on her independent record label, Righteous Babe Records, her new solo album will be one any early Ani fan will be pleased with. It is just her and a guitar, yet there is a level of maturity and wisdom present that, looking back, seemed to be lacking from solo albums early in her career.

One would not think the songs from her

first solo albums could be topped, but it appears she has outdone herself.

But with that maturity and wisdom, she has not lost that nail-biting, teeth-grinding edge her audiences crave. She tells it like she sees it, and one can't help but think of getting out into the world and changing it for the better after seeing her perform.

Ani's audiences may love her because she's talented, they may love her because she inspires them, or they may agree with her views on politics, or relate to her angst about relationships. But one thing is certain; they love her. The mutual respect of artist

and audience is amazing, refreshing and unique in today's music industry.

Her show wasn't about glitter or glamour or making hands-over-fists of money, it was a journey into the life and experiences of a very gifted and humble folk singer.

Her new songs from the album "Educated Guess" were powerful, thoughtful and beautiful.

Surely, some artists have done as well as her on stage, but I doubt any have done better.

'Tad Hamilton' a winner

JOE JUAREZ
Distribution Manager

"When a young adult sees his or her favorite actor on a movie screen, their mind begins to wander and their fantasies may get a little out of control. They start to think about what this actor or actress is doing in Hollywood. They begin to think the characteristics that are portrayed on the screen are the true characteristics of the individual. They think what they see on screen is real life, and they feel as though they 'know' this actor or actress on a personal level.

In "Win a Date with Tad Hamilton," a young adult finds out that dating her movie idol may cause problems with the things she really cares about.

Rosalee Futch (Kate Bosworth) a native from West Virginia works for the Piggly Wiggly grocery store with her friend Cathy Feely (Ginnifer Goodwin). They both have the same obsession for actor, Tad Hamilton who's played by NBC's Las Vegas star, Josh Duhamel. Both Rosalee and Ginnifer follow Hamilton's career. They have his picture on their locker at work and along with their other friend, who is also the store manager, Pete Monash (Topher Grace) go to see his movies.

As Rosalee and Cathy drool over Tad's good looks, Tad is in Hollywood trying to earn a big part in an upcoming movie. With the advice from two Hollywood big shots played by Nathan Lane (The Birdcage) and Sean Hayes (NBC's Will and Grace), Tad cre-



Photo courtesy of MTV.com

Rosalee Futch (Kate Bosworth) dates her Hollywood-dream hunk, Tad Hamilton (Josh Duhamel), in "Win a Date with Tad Hamilton."

ates the ultimate public relations nightmare. He uses himself for a contest where one lucky lady wins a trip to California to go on a date with him. As luck has it, Rosalee enters and her dream comes true, and the serious problem begins.

Topher Grace's portrayal as Pete brings a little bit of his "That '70s Show" character to life in this movie. He acts as a big brother to Rosalee. When Rosalee realizes that Tad isn't a bad guy, Pete realizes that he would do just about anything to win her heart.

Hamilton has the egocentric Hollywood actor in him. He tries to impress Rosalee by adjusting to her nobody lifestyle. He travels to West Virginia, buys a farm and becomes the center of attention. He is trying to get out of the

whole Hollywood fame and set his priorities straight.

Valentine's Day is coming up in a few weeks, and Tad Hamilton is recommended as a must see film. Although it might be considered sort of a teen flick, this film has the lesson that sometimes having good looks can be deceiving.

MOVIE REVIEW
"WIN A DATE WITH TAD HAMILTON"
★★★★★
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Gear up for some mindless fun with 'Torque'

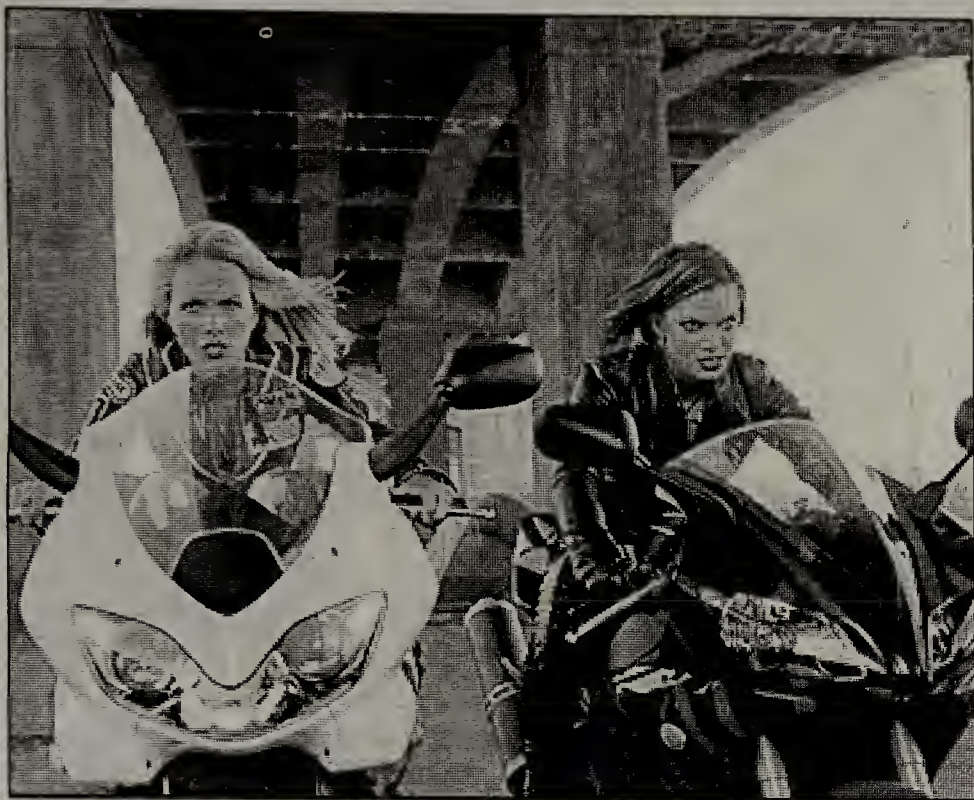


Photo courtesy of yahoomovies.com

Monet Mazur and Jaime Pressly in "Torque."

TERRENCE ISBELL
Movie Critic

I went to see "Torque" tonight...and God help me, I liked it a little. Yes, I deserve to be drawn and quartered, stretched on the rack, and boiled in oil. After all the cracks I made about this movie before actually seeing it, I am ashamed to call myself a pseudo-hypocrite. I say pseudo because there was a LOT I didn't care for in the movie, but it wasn't as mind-numbing as the reviews are making it out to be.

Point blank, I'll say this...Joseph Kahn's directorial debut doesn't look or feel cheap. Directing countless hip hop videos has obviously paid off in the long run for the man (who has a quick cameo in his own movie, of course), who knows how to make even the goofiest stunts look cool. Seeing the experimental Y2K blaze down L.A.'s streets, do a back flip and burst into flames (I don't think I really spoiled anything for you) and have the hero walk off like it's nothing...only a music video director can do that with a straightface.

Part of the reason "Torque" wasn't so bad is because of the dialogue and plot. After "The Fast and the Furious" series and "Biker Boyz," I assumed this was going to be another basic PG-13 race flick, where the main character has to prove himself to the hard as nails street toughs, only to be accepted at the end. In "Torque," the main character/bike repairman Ford (Martin Henderson, playing the Paul Walker role from "The Fast and Furious,") has been in Thailand for the past year due to some unexpected difficulties with a client who decided to store crystal meth in some bikes he wanted him to repair. Flash forward; he's back in good old Cali ready to hit the mean streets with his boys, Dalton (Jay Hernandez) and Val (Will Yun Lee, from Witchblade). Problem is, the characters that stashed the drugs want it back. Ford, being the good man that he is, promptly rejects their demand, and in retaliation, the bad guys kill the brother of the leader of a rival motorcycle gang, who as we all know from the commercials, is Mr. Ice Cube himself. Right about now you can tell it's about to get all "Three's Company" on you, with huge misunderstandings about what Ford has done, with Cube and his followers right on his tail. Now if Mr. Furley popped up out of nowhere I wouldn't have been surprised.

I did say the movie wasn't 100% evil, and it wasn't. They do manage to slip a couple funny lines into the movie, like a rip on the original The Fast and the Furious, and an ode to one of Ice Cube's most popular songs. Will Yun Lee's character does manage to make the movie less dull with his sarcasm about the whole thing going on and his little fling with Christina Milian.

Also, I must mention the bikes...I am not a motorcycle gear head like my dad, I'm more of a car person, but these rides are decent. Aprilia Mille RSV. Triumph TT 600. Honda CBR 954. The experimental Y2K I

mentioned earlier. The bikes actually had more personality than most the actors did.

Now to the rest of the movie...Lord have mercy on my soul. If I see one more tracking shot leading into the engine of a car or bike as a person presses the booster for the nitrous oxide turbo, I'm going to start calling up directors and telling them personally to cut it out. If I see talented actors that have been in past movies acting like they're wooden boards, refer to the statement before this one. The worst of it came towards the end, when Mr. Hero's love interest has a motorcycle fight (you heard me, a motorcycle fight like in the Simpsons) with the villain's Goth chick girlfriend who gets excited when she sees someone get hurt. They actually get into a jousting tournament in an alley with the bikes, wheels in the air, smacking each other in the face with the back wheels....whoever told Mr. Kahn to add that in, please resign from your position now and without haste.

I hate those people that say, "Well, it was a popcorn movie, you just go in and turn off your brain." A good movie will not make you turn off your brain to enjoy it, it'll make you think without you even knowing you're thinking, and Torque, while it's cool to look at, pretty much knows you aren't planning on thinking while you're in the theatre.

Movie Review

"Torque"

★★★★

out of

★★★★★★

'The Five People You Meet In Heaven' shines

TERRIE HENDERSON
Editor in chief

If you died and went to heaven today, what five people would be best suited to tell you about your life and why everything happened the way it did?

Would you be confused if you met a complete stranger instead of a dear friend or a loved one? How could a stranger explain the pains and joys of your life in such great of detail that you could understand fully why your life was important and how you impacted others?

In the book, "The Five People You Meet in Heaven," written by Mitch Albom, the main character, Eddie, a war veteran, works at a seaside amusement park, doing the job his father did before him. He dies in his eighties trying to save the life of a young girl from a falling cart on one of the rides. The problem is that he dies not knowing if he saved her.

The five people he meets range from all different periods of his life; one who died before his time but knew his father, one who he only remembered because of the color of his blue skin, and the love of his life, his wife, who died of cancer in her late forties.

He also meets his army captain who answers a question for him that he has been struggling with his whole life; how he was wounded in battle.

The last person Eddie meets in heaven is a stranger to Eddie although their lives were impacted forever because of one another. This stranger tells Eddie if he saved the little girl or not.

In this book, Eddie must learn that everything happens for a reason, and all people are linked to each other. He also learns that the world is full of stories, but all the stories are really one big story interconnected.

It is a good thing this book is only 196 pages, because someone reading this book will have great difficulty putting it down. Both men and women will enjoy this book.

This book is about war and battle, love and loss, working class families and the pain of a father and son's relationship and children and the innocence of youth.

"The Five People You Meet in Heaven" is a thought provoking and touching tale.

This book not only is written beautifully, with interesting and unique characters; it instills hope that the questions of life have answers, and the answers to even the most haunting questions will all make sense and be understood. It also shows that there is a fairness and balance in a seemingly unjust world.



Book Review

"THE FIVE PEOPLE YOU MEET IN HEAVEN"

★★★★★★

OUT OF

★★★★★★



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Purdue Calumet vs. St. Xavier doubleheader recap

Lady Lakers win overtime thriller

DAVE THOMPSON
Online Editor

The Lady Lakers had only eight players play the entire game in their conference opener against St. Xavier on Jan. 17. In contrast, St. Xavier played 11 players.

While the Lady Lakers could have easily thrown in the towel and given up, they came in determined to end an eight game losing streak against St. Xavier. They proceeded to do just that, winning in overtime by a final score of 88-82.

Senior guard Thespena Kollintzas dressed but did not play as she was recovering from the flu, which also took her out of the Trinity Christian game two nights before.

Senior Kristen Brown, who led the Lady Lakers with 31 points on 9 of 21 shooting and 12 of 14 from the free throw line, said that the loss of Kollintzas made winning the game that much harder.

"With eight players, everybody has got to pick up the slack and being in shape is a big part of it," Brown said.

Senior center La'Teshia Adams contributed with a solid effort off of the Lady Laker bench, scoring eight points and blocking four Lady Cougar shots in 25 minutes of action. However, Adams was also thinking about Kollintzas.

"I wish that she could have played. It would have helped us out a lot more," Adams said.

Brown also contributed with 11 rebounds in the game. However, her four free throws in the final 10.3 seconds of overtime helped seal the win for the Lady Lakers after both teams missed opportunities to win it in the final minute of regulation.

PUC started overtime with senior Sarah Bacan scoring on a field goal and a free throw

"We had three girls in double figures, which is what we really needed,"

Rick Sullivan, Assistant Coach

to give PUC a three-point lead. Kristen Brown helped PUC push the lead out to seven points after Jayme Brown of St. Xavier split a pair at the line to bring St. Xavier back to within two points.

With just under a minute left in overtime, and the Lady Lakers up 82-80, Bacan converted on two free throws to push the lead out to 84-80. After a steal by La'Sharon Watson, PUC had a chance to put the final nail in the coffin, but Bacan missed the shot that could have put St. Xavier down for the count.

After a jump ball that gave St. Xavier possession with 27.2 seconds left in overtime, junior Lauren Novak converted on a quick score to make it 84-82.

It was Kristen Brown who deliver the final blows, as she scored two free throws with 10.3 seconds left and then scored two more with 5.6 seconds left after a St. Xavier turnover to give the Lady Lakers their final margin of victory.

Assistant coach Rick Sullivan said that the team is starting to come together as they look to win the Chicagoland Collegiate Athletic Conference championship. In addition to Brown's double-double effort, he was also proud of the effort junior La'Sharon Watson and junior guard Lisa Cowper showed, as Watson scored 18 despite playing hurt with an ankle injury and Cowper scored 13.

"We had three girls in double figures, which is what we really needed," Sullivan said.

Lakers lose night game in blowout fashion

DAVE THOMPSON
Online Editor

"I'm glad the girls won, we have got to do better next time."

*Marquis Woods,
Lakers starting center*

After the Lady Lakers pulled out an overtime victory in the first game of the PUC vs. St. Xavier doubleheader, the Lakers played hoping to give PUC a sweep on the day.

In sharp contrast to the game the Lady Lakers played, the second game featuring the men did not go to overtime. Eric Regan scored five of the Cougars first seven points as St. Xavier took an early lead, and held on to it for most of the game, ultimately winning 76-53.

Tyran Jackson gave the Lakers their only two leads of the game, both on three-point attempts. Jackson gave PUC their first lead with just under 15 minutes left in the first half which made the score 9-8.

After Raphael Morris gave St. Xavier the lead back at 10-9, Jackson again gave the Lakers the lead as he converted on his second three-point shot of the game to give the Lakers a 12-10 lead. Morris would quickly respond with another basket to tie the game back up at 12-12.

After Mark Telander scored his first basket of the game to give St. Xavier a 14-12 lead, Marquice Woods proceeded to tie up the score for PUC at 14-14. After that, St. Xavier held the lead for the rest of the game.

After the loss, the Lakers as a team said that they needed to do better to stay in the Chicagoland Collegiate Athletic Conference race.

"I'm glad the girls won. We have got to do better next time," Woods said.

Woods was one of three players in double figures for the Lakers, as he scored 10 points

and pulled down 7 rebounds. Also scoring in double figures was Tyran Jackson with 12 points and junior guard Robert Hoskins with 13 points.

In contrast, all five starters for St. Xavier scored in double figures, as Mark Telander led the Cougars with 17 points. Eric Regan scored 16, Mike Rojas scored 13, Raphael Morris scored 11, and Phillip Watson scored 10.

Hoskins thought that there was one primary reason why the Lakers lost to St. Xavier.

"Lack of intensity in the second half," Hoskins said.

Junior Cedric Washington, who did not play in the game, agreed with Hoskins assessment of the lack of intensity in the second half.

"They did pretty good, they came out and set the tone," Washington said.

Despite the loss, there is still some hope for the Lakers as they seek to win the CCAC championship. While the team lost focus as St. Xavier capitalized on Laker mistakes in the second half, sophomore center Jared Pierson said that the Lakers did well in hanging tough with St. Xavier in the first half.

"It's only one loss, so we still have a chance," Pierson said.



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GO LAKERS!
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UPCOMING LAKER AND LADY LAKER HOME GAMES

Lakers Home Games

Saturday Jan. 31 vs. St. Francis

Tip-Off: 3:00 P.M.

Wednesday Feb. 4 vs. Illinois Tech

Tip-Off: 7:00 p.m.

Saturday Feb. 14 vs. Olivet

Nazarene

Tip-Off: 3:00 p.m.

Saturday Feb. 21 vs. IU South Bend

Tip-Off: 7:00 p.m.

Lady Laker Home Games

Saturday Jan. 31 vs. St. Francis

Tip-Off: 1:00 p.m.

Tuesday Feb. 3 vs. Illinois Tech

Tip-Off: 1:00 p.m.

Saturday Feb. 14 vs. Olivet Nazarene

Tip-Off: 1:00 p.m.

Saturday Feb. 21 vs. IU South Bend

Tip-Off: 4:00 p.m.

Spring fling of intramurals

FRANK SPRANKLE
Sports Editor

The Total Fitness Center's intramural program has expanded. There were five intramurals during the fall semester, now that number will increase.

This semester promises to be even busier than last, as there are seven sports currently scheduled, with two more currently in the works.

"There are more sports and more work on stats, plus it seems that there are more students to deal with, there is always pressure," TFC sports coordinator Matt Dudzik said.

While traditional intramurals such as coed basketball and coed volleyball return, a new sport is being introduced this semester.

Starting soon will be four-on-four indoor soccer, but separate for both men and women. The women's soccer intramural will be the first one for females only. The women will begin on February 10, while the men start a week earlier.

"I don't see the women's soccer to be a huge turnout to start, but we start out small and build from there," Dudzik said.

It was the newly formed PUC men's soccer club last fall that led to the formation of the women's soccer intramural. There are a number of members from the club that have already committed to the soccer intramural as a way of staying in shape.

"Hopefully, we get enough girls here so

there can be a women's soccer club," Dudzik said.

Last fall, floor hockey was added. Dudzik said that floor hockey started out small, but a lot of people watched it.

"This was the busiest fall we ever had. Volleyball had its biggest turnout ever," Dudzik said.

Volleyball will be played again this semester. The six-on-six co-ed volleyball will begin on February 12. Intramural bowling returns and will run from March 23 through April 27 at Plaza Lanes in Highland. Last year, there were six bowling teams.

"We should have a better turnout than last spring, especially under Matt's direction," TFC staffer Pete Fagan said.

Fagan serves as an intramural assistant under Dudzik.

Dudzik has stepped up the promotion of the intramural program through more than word-of-mouth. He has posted flyers in classrooms and bulletin boards around campus. He has also set up tables for students to find out more information about intramurals this semester, first during Rush Week and then in the CLO building last week.

Recently, some intramural participants have started to inquire about participating in multiple intramurals.

"We have seen some crossovers. People are playing one sport, but being in the PER building people see flyers and intramural standings, they want to do more," Dudzik said.

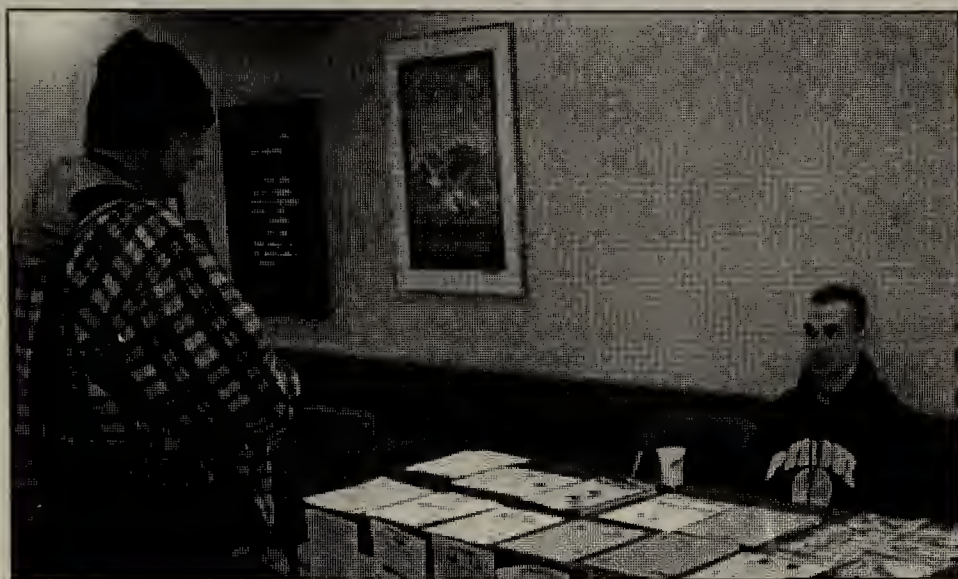


Photo By Frank Sprankle

TFC Sports Coordinator Matt Dudzik (right) promotes the intramural program Thursday on the first floor of the CLO Building. Tim Jahaske (left), a junior majoring in political science, asks questions about the intramural program.

Prison style dodgeball, one of the more popular intramurals last fall, will also be played again this semester. This intramural will resume on Tuesday nights starting on February 10. At the end of February, wiffleball will enter its third year.

"The wiffleball is getting to become a little bit like baseball in terms of developing the traditional rivalries," Dudzik said. The expansion of the intramurals has

also led to more money being allocated to the program.

"When I took over three years ago, there was not much of a budget. At first it was a gamble doing the intramural program at a commuter campus, but it was not a financial gamble," Dudzik said.

For more information about intramurals call (219) 989-2050 or e-mail Matt Dudzik at dudzik@calumet.purdue.edu

Basketball teams bring doubleheader Saturdays

FRANK SPRANKLE
Sports Editor

Rob Jensen said the way the Chicagoland Collegiate Athletic Conference has scheduled both PUC basketball teams is a once in a 25-year break. The reason is that PUC has five home doubleheaders scheduled this season, featuring a game with the Lady Lakers and then the Lakers in the nightcap.

There are three doubleheaders left in the conference schedule, including games this Saturday against St. Francis, as well as on February 14 and 21.

Under a new CCAC regulation, if a basketball doubleheader featuring both a mens' and womens' program is scheduled, then the opposing school must match up their mens' and womens' team.

"This allows for the cross-promotion of both teams. We even thought about bringing in different groups from community bands to biddy ball," Jensen said.

Currently, a biddy ball contest is scheduled for February 14 following the doubleheader against Olivet-Nazarene. Another promotion that has been running throughout the basketball season is the "PUC Lucky 13 Shoot-Out" presented by UPS.

"People are having fun, with bigger crowds everyone is yelling and screaming to root on the participants, it's great," Jensen said.

Jensen has seen an increase in basketball attendance between 8-10 percent.

But with the home doubleheaders, Jensen

would prefer to see crowd sizes between 800-1000 people.

The first conference doubleheader against St. Xavier on January 17 drew a crowd of more than 500. This crowd saw a split with the Lady Lakers picking up their 15th win of the season, while the Lakers lost the second game of the doubleheader.

"Both teams are playing very hard, both are good defensive teams. The men are playing teams that might have deeper talent but they continue to fight. When you have successful teams, people are going to come out. Both our teams are fun to watch," Jensen said.

As of January 21, the Lady Lakers have a 16-6 record, while the Lakers have a record of 11-8.

Having the Lakers and Lady Lakers play on Saturdays in doubleheader action is also the best opportunity for fans to come out and see the talent on the court, without a class or work schedule.

"A lot of people don't have to work on weekends. So there should be a lot of people especially students," Lakers senior guard/forward Brandon Williams said.

By bringing in crowds of good size, it also supports the need for further intercollegiate sports on campus.

One of Jensen's goals over the last two-and-a-half years in taking that step has been to increase the exposure of both basketball teams.

"I'm pleased with where we have come," Jensen said. "We are in a position to go further."



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Broadcast Time on Channel 56: 8:00 P.M.**